

In Greensboro village two stores dominate the retail scene. The Miller's Thumb, housed in a former grist mill, is filled with local artwork, fancy kitchen knickknacks, Italian pottery and antiques. Watch water rushing under the red building through a plexiglass-covered hole in the floor.

At Willey's Country Store, customer Doug Aronson of Woodbury declares "if you can't find it here, you can't find it anyplace." Wine, appliances, groceries, hardware and clothes are sold at the town institution, housed in a rambling white building that dates to the 1800s and has been owned by the Hurst family for five generations.

CRAFTSBURY

Look up as you approach Pete's Greens in Craftsbury. The roof of the farm's serve-yourself stand is laden with trailing plants, flowers and herbs. Peek inside at artful displays of colorful organic vegetables.

Consider yourself lucky if you hit Stardust Bookstore and Cafe on the idyllic Craftsbury Common during its limited school-centric hours. The store, run primarily by students from Craftsbury Academy, sells new and used books, coffee and espresso drinks inside the quaint 1940s former public library. Part of the proceeds are given to nonprofit organizations and granted as scholarships.

Just outside of town down a long dirt road lies Craftsbury Outdoor Center, on Great Hosmer Pond with 10 kilometers of trails open for biking and hiking. Ski director John Brodhead suggests spending an afternoon canoeing, mountain biking, walking with a naturalist, kayaking or relaxing in an Adirondack chair by the lake.

GLOVER

Untold treasures lie within Red Sky Trading Co. in Glover. Owner Cheri Safford's whimsy is on display in the unique and colorful assortment of vintage house wares, Melmac resin dishware, trays, china tea cups, garden decor, picture frames and more, that fill the maroon barn.

Buttery cookies, dense bars and rich chocolate cakes from Safford's kitchen share counter and refrigerator space with Vermont cheeses, natural sodas and local produce. Don't miss Safford's award-winning canned jellies, jams, bread and butter pickles, chutneys and pickled beets—just like Grandma made.

Between a bank of beer coolers and a rack of chips at Currier's Quality Market Inc. stand three stuffed deer and a black bear; turn the corner into the postal area and you'll come face-to-face with a 948-pound moose. More than 100 taxidermy animals are on display in the one-stop shop, including a porcupine, wild boar, ram and British timberwolf.

Jim Currier, who's owned the store for 40 years with his family, started the ever-growing collection 25 years ago with a deer head from his father. Hunters with a mount at the store earn "bragging rights," said Currier's daughter Julie McKay. Coming soon: a red fox, possum, and snow goose.

By 4 p.m. we hadn't eaten lunch and regretfully skipped Bread and Puppet Museum and its "Cheap Art." We missed Mount Pisgah in Barton, with stunning views of Lake Willoughby, biking in Burke at Kingdom Trails, and a mandarin orange chicken salad at River Garden Cafe. We also passed on flat bread and microbrews at Trout River Brewing Co. in Lyndonville and coffee and chit-chat at Miss Lyndonville Diner.

ST. JOHNSBURY

Instead we split for St. Johnsbury, where local-food-centric Elements Food and Spirits, like many destinations in the Northeast Kingdom that have irregular hours, isn't open on Monday.

At Kham's Thai, chef and manager Souki Luangrath, whose Essex Junction-based parents own the restaurant, says quality ingredients are a priority—he even deveins shrimp. Our refreshing late lunch included fresh spring rolls filled with crisp veggies, savory coconut Tom Kha soup and saucy panang curry with chunks of vegetables.

Railroad Street in downtown St. Johnsbury is home to several dozen independently owned shops and restaurants. Moose River Lake and Lodge Store sells jewelry with a Southwestern flair, Adirondack and Amish-style furniture, fine wine kept in a walk-in vault, art by illustrator Philip R. Goodwin, quality sportswear and home decor.

Scottie Raymond, formerly an employee at Outdoor Gear Exchange in Burlington, recently opened Kingdom Outdoors, which sells technical outdoor wear and gear. Raymond inked the graffiti-style mural in the skate shop and lounge downstairs.

During the day, hit Dylan's Caf for creative breakfast and lunch combinations, the newly opened Village Baker for artisan bread and pastries, or Boxcar and Caboose for coffee drinks and books. If you have time, check out PODO Shoes, the Northeast Kingdom Artisan Guild and Gallery and Frogs and Lily Pads.

DEVELOPMENT, RELIEF, AND EDUCATION FOR ALIEN MINORS ACT

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I plan to vote in support of the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act of 2007, better known as the DREAM Act.

The thousands of talented and hard working children and young adults who were brought to this country by their parents had nothing to do with the decision to disobey our laws.

I strongly believe this bill will strengthen our communities, our economy, and our military by requiring that undocumented students demonstrate good moral character, prove completion of a college or graduate degree, or serve in the U.S. military for 2 years in order to earn legalized status.

I urge my colleagues to support the DREAM Act.

NATIONAL PHYSICAL THERAPY MONTH

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I rise today in recognition of National Physical Therapy Month. What we currently celebrate as National Physical Therapy Month began in 1981 as a week long celebration in the month of June. In 1992, that week was extended to a whole month and was moved to October.

National Physical Therapy Month focuses attention on the value of physical therapy to one's health and the contributions of physical therapists to the health of their communities. This year National Physical Therapy Month is focusing on obesity because physical activity is a crucial component of weight loss and better health.

My understanding of physical therapy has greatly increased over the past several months. I owe a debt of gratitude to a great many doctors, nurses,

and therapists who brought me through the darkest moments of my life and who are walking with me on the road to recovery.

I am blessed to work with professional and talented physical therapists as I continue my recovery. Their confidence in my ability to improve is infectious, and my physical therapists motivate me to work harder than I thought possible. I am confident that with my hard work and the dedication of my physical therapists, my potential to improve is limitless.

Throughout my career in the U.S. House and Senate, I have strongly supported expanding access to all kinds of health care professionals. Physical therapists provide critical services to their patients. In a rural State like ours, where they may be the only provider of these services in their community, physical therapists greatly improve patient access to care and quality of life.

This year the Senate is considering the Medicare Access to Rehabilitation Services Act which would repeal the annual Medicare outpatient cap on certain physical and occupational therapy services and the Medicare Patient Access to Physical Therapists Act which would authorize qualified physical therapists to provide services for Medicare beneficiaries without requiring a physician referral. It would also provide for treatment of outpatient speech-language pathology services separately from outpatient physical therapy services. I am pleased to support both of these measures, and I commend them to my colleagues for their consideration.

I encourage everyone to consider with their health care professionals how physical therapy might benefit them, whether recovering from an accident or illness or seeking preventive care. National Physical Therapy Month is a great time to learn more about the benefits of physical therapy.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and a treaty which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:22 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the